

Name: Lauren Kang Meeting # 1 Pages: January

Literature Circle's Name: Escape from Reality...

Select two themes that you see developing in the novel. Provide specific examples from six different passages that reflect the theme in this section.

During Your Group Meeting, Do the Following:

- 1. Make sure everyone opens to the right page and help them find where the passage begins.**
- 2. Either read it aloud yourself, have everyone read it silently, or ask someone to read it.**

Theme #1 : Signs of Guilt

Passage 1 on page 247 and paragraph 3

Although one might think that the signs of guilt can often be hidden physically and are not really expressed easily, however, if one does have the feeling of guilt it is often also shown through their expressions and actions. For the housekeeper of the Minister's clearly looked anxious, worried and sorry about something to Mistress Bramlow when she visited the house after the baby was found.

Passage 2 on page 248 and paragraph 1

The second most common sign of guilt is denial and reject. Many people often try to reject or deny any sort of guilty action they have committed and will do anything to deny this fact or will try to keep themselves out of the issue. The Minister, knowing the fact that the action he committed is wrong, tries to deny or reject the fact of knowing about this happening and tries to hide it from people. When being asked about this issue from the Mistress, he tries to act as if he doesn't know anything about it.

Passage 3 on page 249 and paragraph 6

The last sign of guilt that most people show is acceptance. With so many different evidences and and elements reminding and proving the fact that one is culpable, they begin to accept the feeling of shame and embarrassment. After conversing with the Mistress, and finding out that the Mistress knows about Grace's pregnancy, he eventually indirectly accepts his responsibility for the action and also accepts the shame that he feels by accepting to baptize the baby and officially granting the fact that the baby is no longer Grace's baby but is now the Mistress's son.

Theme #2: Satan and its meaning

Passage 4 on page 256 and paragraph 1

The sudden mentioning of the character or existence of the Devil or Satan may seem very awkward and confusing to many people. However, this appearance of this being is a new symbol for the character's guilt. Because Patience Madden realizes how wrong her actions were, she tries to make sense of her story with logic by involving the Satan and the Devil.

Passage 5 on page 257 and paragraph 4

The second reason or meaning behind the appearance of Satan in Patience's explanation for the story is because of the fact that she tries to deny that the action her family committed is almost unforgivable. Patience eventually goes on explaining the characteristics of how the Devil or Satan acts and the fact that they have acted in such way due to his master plan. It almost brings up the idea of faith and that some actions were predestined to do so.

Passage 6 on page 258 and paragraph 5

Now at the end of the chapter, after discussing about Satan and how all the events that have happened to them were planned and was really how things usually work, Patience at the ends with the conclusion that it is not her that should be accused of being a witch but its her sister. And with her accusing of her sister now for being a witch, it shows the idea that Patience is definitely realizing the guilt she feels from the whole event and the idea that its not her responsibility any more. And by using Satan as an excuse or her sense of logic, she accuses Grace for being a witch, rather than accepting the fact that the whole family is really guilty for such actions.